

**DEFENSE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES  
Resident Course Report**

**Legal Aspects of Combating Corruption (LCC)  
16 November – 6 December 2018, Newport, Rhode Island**

**Areas of Emphasis:**

- Government Integrity Systems
- Investigation
- Prosecution

**Key Issues:**

- Procurement Fraud
- International Anti-Corruption Standards
- National Self-Assessment

<b>Participants: 41</b>	
Military	31
Civilian	10
Female	7
AFRICOM	14
CENTCOM	3
EUCOM	12
NORTHCOM	0
PACOM	11
SOUTHCOM	1

**LCC participants are prepared to:**

- 1) **Identify corruption practices prohibited by international law; and**
- 2) **Assist their country in development of national anti-corruption agencies and procedures.**

**Background:**

The Legal Aspects of Combating Corruption (LCC) course focuses on building transparency and accountability in the defense sector. By contrasting U.S. and international best practices, it highlights ways for participants to improve their national mechanisms to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute corrupt practices in accordance with international legal standards.

LCC participants gained a range of perspectives by visiting and interacting with experts from government and non-government organizations, such as Transparency International, the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, the Rhode Island Ethics Commission, the Department of Justice, Public Integrity Section and the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services. During these visits LCC participants met military and civilian professionals who are leading the fight against corruption. The National Self-Assessment exercise challenged each participant to examine their own country's response to corruption in comparison to international standards and the best practices of other countries, including the United States. Participant presentations to the class regarding their own nation's response to corruption gave additional examples of anti-corruption best practices.

LCC featured practical exercises designed to develop participants' detection and investigative skills. For example, a procurement exercise required participants to review bid documents to

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find evidence of corruption in a simulated competitive bidding process. Other exercises required participants to review documents (such as contracts, bank records and correspondence) that provide evidence of corruption and discuss approaches to investigation and prosecution for procurement fraud and money laundering crimes.

In accordance with IMET objectives, participants also took part in cultural familiarization activities in Newport, RI; New York City and Washington D.C. as part of the DIILS Field Studies Program (FSP). FSP activities helped participants understand how U.S. government institutions support democracy and human rights.

See the attached course schedule for more information on course content and design.

**Course Outcomes:**

Participants responded to the following post course survey questions:

	<b>Average Score (10=Excellent)</b>
Q1: How has your view of the importance of legal aspects of combating corruption been affected by this program?	9.3
Q2: Would you recommend this course to your colleagues?	9.8

\*Average scores of participant response to this survey are consistent with scores for previous LCC courses.

**Participant comments:**

*“Highlights”*

- “We've learnt a lot but I was deeply driven by the study of United Nations Convention Against Corruption and the U.S. agencies of combating corruption both in the civil and in the military system. We have seen that corruption combating requires regional and international collaboration.”
- “The importance of understanding the impact of the corruption on the nation and how legal aspects of combating corruption can contribute to eradicate corruption either domestically or internationally”
- “The chance to listen to very experienced speakers, and interact with them as well as with participants.”

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*“What are the Strengths of the course?”*

- “High expertise and high commitment from all DIILS staff and all the speakers.”
- “Group exercises helped all members to be involved in discussions and increased their knowledge.”
- “We can learn from other countries situations and problems facing corruption, and can make a good start to work together in the future.”
- “We were able to learn how to develop laws which will lead to successful prosecutions.”
- “The practical exercises helped us to better understand the subjects.”

*“What, specifically did you learn that you anticipate using in your workplace?”*

- “Since I work as a legal adviser I will propose and draft regulations to improve our internal controls practices.”
- “The protection of whistle blowers because of the absence of appropriate mechanisms in my country.”
- “To educate the service members about corruption and how to defeat it.”

**Future Plans:**

- Increase the amount of time in the schedule for small group discussion exercises.
- LCC (MASL P176040) will be offered again 16 November to 6 December 2018.

For more information:

See the attached course schedule

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